



Attorney Docket No. 024444-917

Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)

Håkan ERICKSSON et al.)

Application No. 09/838,305)

Filed: April 20, 2001)

For: CUTTING TOOL SYSTEM AND)
MECHANISM FOR ACCURATELY)
POSITIONING A CUTTING EDGE)

Group Art Unit: 3722

Examiner: Brian D. Walsh

Confirmation No. 1853

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated March 3, 2003, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the subject application.

Claim 1 stands rejected as obvious over Carroll in view of Misuraca, it being deemed obvious to provide Carroll with Misuraca's clamping action in addition to the spring-actuated coupling mechanism of Carroll. It is submitted that an artisan would not find it obvious to make such a combination, because it would be redundant. The spring-actuated coupling 18, 32, 51 of Carroll functions to lock the shaft 13 within the collar 18. The collar 18 blocks escape of the detent balls 32 and thus prevents dislodgment of the shaft 13. There is no need for the further provision of a separate clamp, and an artisan would not be motivated to provide same.

In the presently claimed invention, the spring-loaded element functions merely to provide an indication of the position of the cutting tool. The spring-loaded element is not capable of securing the tool in place, i.e., it is not redundant to the clamp 57.

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It is submitted that there is absolutely no motivation for combining Carroll's spring-loaded lock and Misuraca's clamp. Neither of those two patents discloses redundant securing mechanisms nor suggests that redundancy is necessary.

Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 1 is allowable.

Regarding claim 21, section no. 10 of the Official action asserts that Figure 7 of Carroll illustrates longitudinally spaced recesses. However, that figure shows a shaft 11 leading from the spindle to a collar 18; the shaft 11 is not the shaft extending from the cutting tool. The shaft extending from the cutting tool is numbered 13, and it is not shown as having a plurality of longitudinally spaced recesses.

As regards the rejection of claim 22 over Carroll in view of Misuraca, the same argument applies as was made above regarding claim 1. That is, there is no motivation from those patents to combine a spring-loaded securing element and a clamp.

The same logic applies to the proposed combination of Martindell and Misuraca. Each of those patents discloses a mechanism for securing a tool in place. There is simply no need to combine the two securing mechanisms, and no benefit is attained, because either securing device will suffice to retain the tool.

For the reasons explained above, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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